

Claim 10, line 2, after "different" insert --wire--.

Claim 11, line 2, after "different" insert --coil--.

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, Applicant amends claims 2, 9, 10 and 11 and cancels claims 14-16 and 19.

The Examiner rejected claims 2, 5 and 9-20 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. Claims 2, 9, 10 and 11 have been amended to overcome the informalities. Claims 14-16 and 19 have been canceled. With respect to claims 2 and 18, Applicants maintain that "different electrical characteristics" is definite in view of the specification, on page 3, lines 1 and 2, and elsewhere in the specification, which clearly sets forth that "electrical characteristics" include current capacity, inductance, and other electrical characteristic. With respect to claims 5 and 20, the use of "substantially" is clearly proper and does not render the claims indefinite under 35 U.S.C. 112 since the phrase does not stand in a vacuum, but must be read in light of the specification. In re Mattison & Swanson, (CCPA) 184 USPQ 484. With respect to claim 12, Applicants maintain that the term "close-coupled coils" is clearly definite and is defined in the specification and the drawings, see the first full paragraph on page 11, and Fig. 9. In view of the Amendments to the claims, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 6-8 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-11 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Mamada et al. (JP 9-246080). The Examiner further rejected claims 12-20 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Mamada et al. (U.S. 5,692,290). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claims 1 and 12 both recite "a block made of at least either resin or rubber having a magnetic material dispersed therein."

In contrast, Mamada et al. (JP 9-246080) discloses a chip electronic component having coil conductors inside a sintered ceramic mold body. Bar shaped mold bodies

are formed by the extrusion of magnetic powder material mixed with a binder, and the bar shaped bodies are sintered. Thus, Mamada et al. (JP 9-246080) fails to teach or suggest a block which is made of either resin or rubber, and in fact teaches only a ceramic "block". Therefore, Mamada et al. (JP 9-246080) clearly fails to teach or suggest the claimed invention, and in fact, teaches away from the invention recited in claim 1 including "a block made of at least either resin or rubber having a magnetic material dispersed therein".

Similarly, Mamada et al. (U.S. 5,692,290) discloses a winding core which is formed by extruding a kneaded material obtained by kneading a powdered magnetic material and binder. Although Mamada et al. (U.S. 5,692,290) does not explicitly state that the molded body is made of ceramic, a molded body which is sintered at the temperature of 600-1000 degrees C would inherently be made of ceramic. Further, Mamada et al. does not disclose or suggest that the molded block is or could be made of either a resin or rubber material. Therefore, Mamada et al. (U.S. 5,692,290) clearly fails to teach or suggest the claimed invention, and in fact, teaches away from the invention recited in claim 12 including "a block made of at least either resin or rubber having a magnetic material dispersed therein".

By constructing the block out of resin or rubber, the present invention does not require a sintering process, and thus reduces the cost of production. If the block of the present invention were fired at a temperature of 600-1000 degrees C, the molded block would be inoperative. Moreover, the present invention enables the use of plural coils which are arranged in parallel in the insulating coating resin, and a plurality of conductors integrally coated with the insulating coating resin. Therefore, the present invention greatly simplifies the manufacturing process for producing a composite inductor component as compared with the components disclosed in both Mamada et al. references which require sintering to produce the component.

Thus, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1 and 12 are not anticipated by Mamada et al. (JP 9-246080) or Mamada et al. (U.S. 5,692,290). Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of claims 1 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b).

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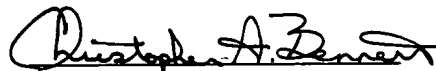
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1 and 12 are allowable. Claims 2-11 and claims 13, 17, 18 and 20 depend upon claims 1 and 12 respectively, and are therefore allowable for at least the reasons that claims 1 and 12 are allowable.

In view of the foregoing Remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are respectfully solicited.

To the extent necessary, Applicant petitions the Commissioner for a Three-month extension of time, extending to December 7, 2000, the period for response to the Office Action dated June 7, 2000.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-1353.

Respectfully submitted,



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December 7, 2000

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